

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/501,331
Amendment filed April 6, 2010
Reply to OA dated December 9, 2009

REMARKS

The applicants thank the Examiner for holding telephone interviews with the applicants' attorney on February 2 and 4, 2010, and on March 22, 2010. During the interviews, the attorney and the Examiner discussed the outstanding indefiniteness rejection of claims 1 and 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and possible claim amendments to overcome the same. In particular, during the interview of March 22, 2010, the Examiner noted that the above presented amendments to claim 1 appear to clarify the language of the pending claims. Accordingly, the applicants requests an early and favorable action in view of the below.

Claims 1 and 4-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as their invention.

In particular, as discussed during the interview, the Examiner alleged that the use of the repeated terms "linear velocity coefficient" and "optimal linear velocity coefficient" render claim 1 unclear. During the interview of March 22, 2010, the Examiner noted that the amendments to claim 1 submitted hereby clarify the claim language significantly. Claims 4-8 stand rejected for their dependencies from claim 1. Accordingly, in view of the above amendments to claims, the applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the outstanding indefiniteness rejection

Further, as discussed during the interview, claim 1 as amended is allowable over the Yamazaki reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,552,980) cited in the Office Action dated April 1, 2008,

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because Yamazaki does not disclose or suggest the recited use of ambient temperature in updating the current linear velocity coefficient.

There are no additional objections or rejections outstanding in this application. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request an early action passing this application to issue as a patent.

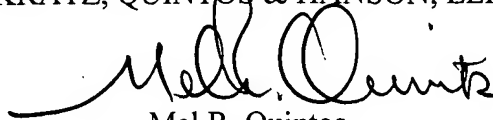
In the event that the Examiner determines that the prosecution of this application may be expedited by holding a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below to arrange for an interview.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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